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Poncello Lace

SHOWN FOR THE
FIRST TIME
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by

Signorina Theresa Rizzi

Valsesia, Italy

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Directions for Making

Poncetto Lace

by

Signorina Theresa Rizzi

*Demonstrator of Lace-Making for the Committee to which
was awarded the Gold Medal for the most beautiful
designs of Poncetto Lace, at the Universal
Exposition, Torino, Italy, 1911*

PRICE 25 CENTS

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INTRODUCTORY

The spirit of the past calls to us when we see and handle Italian lace, especially the exquisite patterns of Poncetto lace.

With strength as the very foundation-stone upon which the Roman empire was built, was coupled not only a love but an absolute worship of the beauty in nature and art, hence Italian laces, modern and antique are especially symbolic of the ideals of the old Romans.

From the earliest days of the empire, lace-making was encouraged from an artistic as well as an industrial standpoint; but nowhere did it meet with such favor as in Venice, whose ideal location and unprecedented achievements in science and art made her in deed as in name the "mistress of the Adriatic."

Poncetto lace was first made during the seventh century in Valsesia, Italy.

In the following pages I have summed up the knowledge and experience which study and actual practice have enabled me to accumulate.

Careful workers will be able by reading the directions to teach themselves so that they can work out the plain and fancy patterns described. At first sight some of the designs may appear rather difficult to execute, but when readers have followed the instructions and learned how to make the stitch, all difficulties will disappear and the seemingly impossible can be easily accomplished.

In conclusion let me express the hope that my book will be favorably received by the American ladies to whom it is especially addressed. This would be my greatest reward for the care and effort I have put into it.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

While there is but one stitch to learn, there are two ways of throwing the thread over the needle, as the lace is made by working in two directions, from left to right and from right to left without turning the work. The stitch resembles a buttonhole stitch but it is a "knot" stitch.

The thread is cut from the ball as in ordinary sewing, some people preferring a short thread, others a long one. I suggest that beginners use No. 5 embroidery needle and No. 20 cotton thread. No bobbins and pillow are required for the making of this lace. All that is needed is a common embroidery needle and cotton thread of different numbers. No thimble is necessary.

Italian Poncetto lace sells at extraordinary prices. There is no limit to its many uses; for instance: dainty handkerchiefs, edgings, corners for luncheon napkins, infants' wearing apparel, insertions, for shirt waists, yokes, center pieces, doilies, luncheon cloths, etc.

How to make the stitch when working from left to right

Hold the needle with the point from you and put it through the goods, making the thread secure. Then pull the thread through the goods at the distance shown in the dia-

gram, keeping both threads over the needle to the right. Then take hold of thread at eye of needle and throw to left over the point. Pull the needle through forming a loop.

How to make the stitch when working from right to left

Hold the needle with the point from you as described above. Throw the thread from right

to left over the needle and pull through the loop already formed.

How to fill in the loops

*How a beginner
should practice*

How to join ends of threads

Both ends must be held toward the left no matter in which direction one is working. Then place the needle through the loop with the end of the new thread which is to be jointed lying

over the needle. Take hold of thread at eye of needle throwing to the left over point. Pull needle through, thus forming the "knot" stitch.

Directions for making insertion. Fig. 1

Arrange the thread in the shape of a ring and make two stitches, going from left to right; then make two stitches going from right to left and so on alternately until you have about one and one-half inches. This forms a narrow braid. Then turn the corner, making two stitches from left to right, then in these same two stitches go back from right to left—going back and forth five times altogether. Then going from left to right make a large loop in which you make three stitches going from right to left. The second large loop is made by going from left to right. In this loop you make one stitch by going from right to left. Then make two small loops—putting one stitch in each loop. After that make two stitches in

the big loop, remembering always that the loops are made from left to right and the filling-in stitches from right to left. Then make two small loops, putting one stitch in each loop. Then make two large loops which brings you to the end of the braid in which you make two stitches. In these two stitches going from right to left you make two stitches, then coming back make two stitches from left to right and so on alternately, five times altogether. Then make four stitches in the big loops and two in each of the small loops. When one is able to make this first row, the rest of the design can be easily worked out by following the diagram.

Fig. 1

Handkerchief edging, Fig. 2. Thread No. 50

One big loop—four stitches—small loop fastened back in second stitch—another small loop fastened in second stitch—then two more stitches in both loops—then one loop back to center and then one stitch back to corner of foregoing loop and one stitch more, then stem and four stitches in it. Repeat. After finishing, fill in all around the edge.

Handkerchief edging, Fig. 3

From left to right—big loop—four stitches in it—two more rows of four stitches—then into the first stitch five times, one stitch on top of the other. Then big loop down to the third stitch; in the fourth stitch go back and forth five times, then make one stitch in the big loop. Then up and down with solid stitches, then stem with four stitches—again big loop as before.

Handkerchief edging, Fig. 4

Start in corner of handkerchief, from right to left five stitches—go back to second stitch, make one loop and one stitch in it, skip one stitch, make another loop and one stitch in it, then one more stitch in each loop. Make a loop on top of the two loops for point, four stitches in that top loop and two in the other and fasten down to hold with one stitch.

Fig. 2

Fig. 3

Fig. 4

Napkin edging, Fig. 5. (With solid blocks)

One big loop—four stitches—back and forth eight times, then stem as in handkerchief edging, Fig. 2.

Napkin Edging, Fig. 5

Lace Edging, Fig. 7

Make foundation about half inch wide. Begin the pattern by making two small loops from left to right and one stitch for the edge. Repeat by making the two loops from left to right and the stitch for the edge. Then double the thread and make two loops extending to the left. Repeat as above. Then make one large loop and the edge catching the thread of the loop. Fill in from right to left. Again extend two small loops to the left by doubling the thread. Repeat. Next make two large

loops and the edge, filling in as before. Extend two small loops to the left. Repeat. Make a slanting loop next with four stitches back and forth until the square is completed. Now make two large loops. Fill in from right to left, working around the solid square and ending at the extreme left. This completes half of the pattern. The other half of the pattern is made exactly as the first half, the difference being that you decrease instead of increasing.

Fig. 6

Fig. 7

Three designs of Lace Edgings and Insertion to Match Napkin Edging, Fig. 5

Start insertion, Fig. 6, according to directions under Fig. 1, page 4.

Work upwards five times, two stitches on top of each other, then big loop slanting and four stitches in it—loop back to second stitch

and one stitch in it, then loop back to the other second stitch and one stitch in it, then two more stitches in each, then back in middle one loop and one stitch, then another loop in corner and one stitch in it, then stem down to foundation. See picture.

Fig. 8

Fig. 9

Napkin Edging—See Fig. 8

How to make scallop for napkin, Fig. 8

Make twenty stitches, through the material, working from right to left. Referring to numbers in diagram and working from left make four small holes (1), then large loop (2). Go back three stitches in large loop (2) and make

slanting loop (3). Go back four stitches and pick up each stitch, repeating this eight times altogether as you work back and forth (4). Continue to make the sections as per diagram, in numerical order.

To make edging, Fig. 9

Working from left to right, make a large loop, then going back from right to left make eight stitches in the loop. Make four little loops in each second stitch going back a stitch in each one as you make the loop. Then go back from right to left, making two stitches in

each loop. Repeat these instructions three more times. Then make the stem by putting the needle through the material. Make eight stitches in the stem. After pattern is finished, fill in all around the top.

To make yoke as seen on cover page

Start the insertion in usual way, finishing it at the end as described in Fig. 1, page 4. Make small loops going from left to right, then fill them in going from right to left. Make the second row (2 loops) and the third row (1 loop) in the same way, forming the edge at end as in Fig. 1. Then make four slanting loops. Then two straight loops, one slanting loop and three straight loops, one slanting loop and three straight loops. Then fill the loops and make one slanting loop and two straight loops. Fill these loops and make one slanting loop and one straight loop. Fill these loops and make one slanting loop. You have now made two

large points with a small point between. Form the center by going back and making five stitches in each of the first four loops and two stitches in the first one of the two center loops. Then go back from left to right filling in the loops as usual. Repeat as before, making loops and filling them in, thus finishing the small holes on the right hand side of design. Make small holes on the left hand side in same way. Follow diagram closely, forming center of design of usual size loops and stitches. Reverse the above instructions for top of design. If these directions are carefully worked out the pattern will be perfectly even and straight.

Medallion and Initials

Tea Cloth

Infant's Dress

No. of Thread		Size of Needle	
No. 1		No. 3	
No. 5		No. 4	
No. 10	}	No. 5 for 10 and 20	
No. 20			
No. 30	}	No. 6	
No. 40			
No. 50	}	No. 7	
No. 60			
No. 70	}	No. 8	
No. 80			
No. 100		No. 9	
No. 150		No. 10	

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